

Minutes

Coventry Fire District

Board of Engineers

Planning & Advisory Board

Dec. 6th, 2006

Ch. Warren convened meeting at 6:35 p.m. Minutes of previous meeting were accepted. Present at the meeting were 1st. Dept. Ch. J. Hartman, Officers and members of the Advisory Board and about 12 other attendees.

Ch. Warren presented a proposed 2007 budget of \$ 2, 085,937. He reviewed and discussed the listed items in the projected budget. Ms. Shirley Mathews questioned the oil prices and if bids were sought. Mr. Gary Cote also spoke of heating costs at a lower price. Ch. Warren spoke of proposals planned.

Mr. G. Cote requested that a budget package be printed and presented to the taxpayers; he wants them to be informed. He also has contacts to have the budget printed at no charge in the newspaper.

Mr. Conrad Burns spoke on tax incentives and the effects it will make on taxpayers. He said the will of the people would determine a budget acceptance. Taxpayers should be warned ahead of time.

Ch. Warren reported that the present budget is overspent. Many repairs are needed and must be made, which will increase this new budget.

Capt. Lonnie St. Jena asked if repairs on Engine 1 are planned. Ch.

Warren spoke about repairs planned. Ladder truck repairs were discussed.

Mr. Gary Cote spoke of the use of the rescue units and the purchase of the new rescue truck. Ch. Warren informed members that there is a holdup because of legality problems.

Mr. Gary Cote spoke on the appointment of the present Chief and the legal authority of the rescue purchase. Ms. Jeanne Lukowicz commented on the same issue. Mr. Keith Calci spoke on the board appointment.

Mr. Conrad Burns reviewed budget line items and spoke on same.

Mr. Burns asked how figures were obtained on the various repairs that are projected. Ch. Warren explained.

Various people discussed and questioned the budget line items. Cuts were suggested. Ch. Warren explained how the budget figures were drawn. Capt. Lonnie St. Jean spoke on some of the budget items.

Ms. Mathews discussed the proposed tax increase and wants better future planning.

Mr. Burns spoke on the payroll figure. He mentioned the new labor contract and more overtime pay. Ch. Warren explained the labor situation.

Mr. Calci spoke on the proposed budget line items.

Mr. Cote suggested budget monetary figure changes.

Ch. Warren states that a maximum cut of \$100,000. is all that he can see happening.

Mr. David Gorman spoke on some budget expenditures and stated not to cut the building maintenance figures.

Mr. Terraciano spoke on the budget expenditures and proposed cuts made by some members.

Ms. Mathews questioned the \$5,000. limit on spending. Mr. Cote explained that the Board of engineers made the limit.

Mr. Gorman discussed the sale of surplus equipment. Ch. Warren stated that Engine 3 is the only truck he can retire.

Members suggested cuts to some line items in the proposed budget. Ch. Warren stated that we cut the proposed budget tonight. Mr. Cote will have the new budget published in the local paper at no charge to the district.

District merger with the other merged districts was discussed Ms. Mathews questioned various matters of same. Mr. Carlow spoke of ways to work together and maybe someday a merger.

Ch. Warren spoke of combined training and get together will some day favor a merger. He spoke of some advantages of a merger.

Mr. Cote also spoke on the merger issue in the future.

Mr. Gorman spoke on the advantage of a merger. Overall good and bad were spoken on the merge.

Ch. Warren stated that a new budget proposal will be printed by tomorrow and Mr. Cote will have it published in time for the meeting presentation.

Mr. Conrad Burns motions for the meeting to adjourn and it was seconded by Mr. Terraciano, The motion to adjourn was passed on unanimous voice vote at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Golomb
Clerk